



# CATAWBA COUNTY

3070 11<sup>TH</sup> Ave. Drive S.E. - Hickory, North Carolina 28602 - (828) 695-5800

TDD (828) 695-5155 - FAX (828) 695-4410

Public Health Department

Barry A. Blick, MPH, Health Director  
Debbie Easton, RN, Immunization Clinic Charge Nurse  
Tracey D. Paul, BSPH, Health Education Coordinator

Ph: 695-5861

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 12/9/03**

## **Catawba County Public Health Department Asks The Public To Call Before Coming For Flu Shots**

The Catawba County Health Department is dedicated to protecting the public from the flu in spite of a national shortage of the flu vaccine and is working with vendors to get additional flu vaccine to our department as soon as possible. Currently, the Catawba County Health Department just received a shipment of flu vaccine on 12/9/03 and **does** have flu vaccine available. More shipments of the flu vaccine are expected to arrive later this week. "We are leaving no stone unturned and will continue to have flu vaccine available as long as supplies last for residents," said Barry Blick, Health Director. "We encourage residents of Catawba County to call us frequently at 695-5800 to determine if our agency has vaccine on hand."

The Catawba County Public Health Department began giving flu shots on October 6, 2003, and has successfully given 6,200 flu shots to date to folks in our community. As shipments arrive, flu shots will be available at the Health Department's Immunization Clinic, with no appointment necessary, Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. The cost is \$20.00 for the general public. Medicaid (high risk only) and Medicare Part B insurance cover flu shot costs, so **please remember to bring your card with you!** Please call 695-5800 for more information.